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Alumni Columns

VOL. XI—NO. 4

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

DECEMBER, 1951

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Life Membership Certificates

Life membership certificates in the Alumni Association have been issued to the following since the publication of the last list: Jack Branch, USMC (home address, Little Rock, Arkansas); Leola Rodgers, Ruston; Richard D. Clanton, Alexandria; Leonard O. Nichols, Alexandria; Charles T. Hall, Shreveport; Charles A. Ross, Natchitoches; Willa Nelson Ross, Natchitoches; Sarah Ragland O'Reilly, San Francisco, California; and Mrs. Lena Holston Pope, Fort Worth, Texas.

A new type of life membership certificate was issued to Mrs. Mabel Moore Vail, New Orleans. This certificate is available to all life members of the Alumni Association at no additional expense.

All persons who are alumni of the Institution, either graduates or former students, are eligible to receive a life membership certificate in the Alumni Association upon payment of the life membership fee of five dollars. Send your payment in today and receive your certificate of life membership.

ALUMNI Here 'n There

James J. Mitchell New Queensborough Head

James J. Mitchell, a member of the Caddo and Bossier Parish school faculties since 1939, with the exception of three years in the armed forces, has been appointed principal of the Queensborough Elementary School in Shreveport.

A graduate of Northwestern in 1939, Mitchell taught in the Bossier High School from 1939 to 1942. After returning from service, he became a member of Fair Park High School faculty in 1948 and was transferred to Lakeshore Junior High School in 1949.

Mitchell completed the work on a Master's Degree in Education at University of Arkansas in July.

He is 35 years of age, married the former Eula B. Durham, NSC graduate of 1939, and has one child, Arminda Sue, age 5. They

reside at 321 Ratcliff Street, Shreveport.

Monday Taking Special Work

Charles W. Monday, A.B. '36, of Pettus, Texas, is taking special work in the Stanolind Oil and Gas Special School at Tulsa, Oklahoma. The process engineering school conducted by Stanolind is for the twelve experienced engineers from gasoline and cycling plants and one refinery operated by the company. Monday is one of the twelve engineers in attendance at this school, the first such school for process engineers conducted by his company.

Monday has been employed by this company for several years and is presently located at P. O. Box 12, Pettus, Texas.

* * *

Van Odom Elected President of LEA

Van D. Odom, principal of the Haynesville Elementary School and president of the Northwestern State College Alumni Association, was elected president of the Louisiana Education Association at the annual meeting held in Shreve-

(Continued on Page 3)

LIBRARY

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

LUPTON MEMORIAL BABYLAND



LENA POPE, "MOM" TO MORE THAN SIX THOUSAND

By Mamie Bowman

At the Fall Homecoming of 1951, the Northwestern Alumni who were present had the pleasure of seeing again or for the first time Lena Holston Pope, graduate of 1899. Those who were not present missed seeing a most attractive woman, whose useful life and wide sympathies are written on her face and in her poised, assured bearing.

Lena Holston was well known to the inhabitants of Natchitoches in 1899, for she and her sisters, mother, and father lived here then. Her mother, now residing in Houston, is over one hundred years old. Mrs. Pope and her husband went to Houston on October 28 to help Mrs. Pope's mother celebrate her birthday (her one hundred and first, I believe).

A casual survey of Lena Holston's record at Northwestern, Normal when she was here, shows she made her best grades in history and spelling. The last term she was here, she took Applied Psychology, French, Discourse (whatever that was), Singing, Drawing, and Teaching. No grades were recorded for that last term: the record was marked simply "Graduated."

She was a classmate of Dean E. Varnado, and had hoped to see Miss Varnado at the recent homecoming as she had when she returned for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the College, at which time the writer of this article first met her. Both Miss Varnado and Mrs. Pope love to tell of their class play of 1899, written by the members but patterned after the then-popular book "The Houseboat on the Styx," by John Kendrick Bangs. The play had the same title as the book. Lena Holston was a Spook in the

class production, according to a letter to Mr. Miller, written since her return to Fort Worth. In that letter, she says:

"Like a returning Spook from that mystic river, on Homecoming Day—this good year, 1951—the Old Grad, now Texas Mom to 6,000 boys and girls of the City Streets, wandered in wistful reverie over the wondrously changed campus grounds of Northwestern College.

"Old's Grad's vested rights in traditions were not mentioned to the present generation. However, she would say to all Campus inheritors, now, 'You have done an amazing job of changing things': the contour of Campus grounds re-shaped, old buildings all gone—even the name of our Alma Mater changed.

"Withal, it must be admitted, all changes seem for the better.

"What a thrill to find you preserved for posterity, the old white columns of one of our loved buildings, and many of the friendly, sheltering trees, which, bending low over present-day Co-eds, seem still interested, after all the years, in every College romance.

"Perhaps the present campus occupants were a little bored, having the 'Memory Brigade' in their hair. Yet, they made a genuine effort to make the occasion happy for the home-comers and, in their attentive courtesy, we sensed some of the sentiment that some day will bring them back as old grads, too.

"Witness the glad reunions, here and there, proving 'tis people—not buildings—that give purpose to traditions; and memories are hallowed by the faces that smile in them.

"Home-coming brought them all back into focus."

Recently Mrs. Lena Holston Pope was honored as the Outstanding Citizen of Fort Worth. She received this recognition primarily for her work with dependent children.

In 1930, Mrs. Pope's Sunday school class, which she had built in a Fort Worth Baptist Church, decided to branch out into the health and welfare field of the town—as that field pertained to needy children.

Since they planned, as she writes, to work as Christian mothers without compensation; and since they were not graduates of social-work schools, they did not get a ready welcome "into the fold." But the need was so terrific and their zeal so boundless that they were finally "granted a license for fourteen children."

Again I quote from Mrs. Pope's letter to Mr. Miller, written Armistice Day:

"The day we opened our doors, twenty-five were clamoring for shelter—and were accepted. This meant a move within our first week. Four moves were made our first year, getting larger quarters each time. Then we purchased a twenty-room house; and built two dorms and a hospital unit.

"The Sunday School Class named the home for me, calling it the Lena Pope Home. Within the span of three years, we were licensed for 200, had a State Charter and were accepted by the Fort Worth Community Chest as one of its participating Agencies.

"Our present license is for 350 children . . .

"It would be impossible to send, as requested, a picture of the Home, since our twelve buildings are scattered over fourteen city blocks—about seventy acres—not in some isolated spot, as is too often the case with children's homes, but in the heart of Fort Worth, and between three of our best public schools: Elementary, Junior, and Senior High. Thanks to friends, and to earned scholarships—football prowess, and scholastic records—our graduates represent us today, in A. & M., Hardin-Simmons, Texas, Baylor, and T. C. U. Surely, soon I shall have to manage one in Northwestern."

Mrs. Pope did send the picture published here of the latest addition to the buildings of the home. It is called Lupton Memorial Babyland, in memory of the husband of Mrs. C. A. Lupton. It was finished and occupied by seventy babes and toddlers on December 14, 1950, Mrs. Pope's birthday. The central building is the admin-

istration building, and the breezeways to the east and west connect with the babies' bedrooms—which are also playrooms in inclement weather. Directly in front of the white brick administration building is a block which Delta Rho Delta Sorority has been developing as Babyland Park. The picture was taken a year ago.

At present there are 350 children in the home and Mrs. Pope is the president. Six thousand have been fitted for Christian citizenship since the opening of the doors to this home. Little wonder that Mrs. Pope cannot talk to anyone for more than a few minutes without some mention of her numerous boys and girls, who call her Mom. She is proud of her children's records in World War II and the Korean conflict, but even prouder that she has lost only one—I think I am correct in this detail.

Yet this woman of action, a very tangible "ghost" from 1899, is not puffed up. I do not know

LENA POPE



whether our College and the good teachers of long ago can take any credit for that fact. Possibly her century-old mother can take part credit. When Fort Worth honored Mrs. Pope as the outstanding citizen of the City, she received the following message from her mother: "It is fitting, Daughter, that you remember, always, you are only an instrument in God's hand. He hath wrought a great work."

This I do know: the Alumni of Northwestern take great pride in the fact that Fort Worth's outstanding citizen is a life member of its Alumni Association. They wish for her the long life of her own mother and continued joy in her more-than-six-thousand who call her Mom. The Alumni realize, as does she, that "'tis people—not buildings (or even columns)—that give purpose to traditions."

Northwestern State College Alumni Association

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MISS VIOLET DAVION



Directs Royal Clippers

Miss Violet Davion, B.S. '39, has gained much acclaim and publicity for herself and the Sulphur High School with an organization known as the Sulphur High School Royal Clippers. Operating for their third year, the Clippers have become one of the outstanding organizations of its type in the southwest, and are called upon constantly throughout the area for performances.

The Royal Clippers is an all-girl marching unit consisting of eighty-eight members. The membership consists of three color bearers carrying taffeta United

States, Louisiana, and Clipper flags, a major, six majorettes, six twirlers, sixteen drummers, and fifty-six marchers.

The girls perform at all home football games and at most out-of-town games. They have accepted many invitations to march in parades in the southwest area. The Clippers are particularly known for their fast cadence. They give a beautiful flash of color with their royal blue and white drums and with their uniforms of school colors, royal blue and gold on a field of white.

The organization is one of honor. Every Clipper must maintain a "C" average, must obey all rules and live up to the standards set for the group. They must not bring disgrace, dishonor, or criticism upon the school or upon the unit.

It is also a democratic organization with responsibilities distributed among many. Every Clipper has an opportunity to make suggestions and criticisms for the betterment of the group.

The Clippers are an independent unit not connected with the school band in any way. Their performances are complete within their own organization.

This organization took part in the mammoth parade opening the Natchitoches Christmas Festival on December 1. They amazed and delighted the thousands who had an opportunity to watch their performance.

A picture showing the entire group on the Sulphur High School football field is to be seen in this issue.

NSC Alumni Have Open House At LEA Meeting

The Alumni Association held open house on Tuesday, November 20, at Byrd High School on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Louisiana Education Association. Hundreds of graduates, former students, and visitors stopped by during the day to visit with friends, and enjoy a cup of coffee that was served with cakes, attractively colored in white or purple icing.

More than 750 cups of coffee were served to our coffee-drinking alumni and friends. Many other people came by just to visit.

All local arrangements were made by Mr. H. J. Colvin and Mr. Charles T. Hall, president and secretary respectively, of the local alumni unit.

SANTA VISITS LENA POPE HOME



Alumni—

(Continued from Page 1)

port on November 19, 20, and 21. He served as vice-president of the LEA last year.

* * *

Clanton Elected Member Retirement Board

Richard D. Clanton, B.S. '37, who has been head of the Commercial Department at Bolton High School for several years, was elected as a member of the Retirement Board for the Louisiana Education Association. The years of business experience of Mr. Clanton should make him a valuable member of this board.

* * *

Packard on U.S.S. Goodrich

Hyland D. Packard, B.S. '50, was a recent visitor to the campus. Upon returning to his station, he wrote that he wished to receive the ALUMNI COLUMNS. His present address is Hyland D. Packard, Ensign, U.S.S. Goodrich (DDR-831), c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

* * *

Moves To Alaska

Mrs. Warren M. Robbins, the former O. C. Coats, A.B. '41, of

Epps, is moving from the States to Alaska to be with her husband, who is stationed in Alaska. She asks that the Columns be mailed to her at Hq. 39th Air Depot Wing, APO 942, c/o Postmaster, Seattle, Washington.

* * *

Wants To Hear From Classmates

Mrs. Reba Talley Foley, A.B. '36, of 2405 Jackson Street, Covington, writes that she enjoys reading the Alumni Columns and would like to correspond with former classmates.

Mrs. Foley worked for the Farm Security Administration from 1936 to 1939, and as Home Demonstration Agent in Plaquemines Parish from 1939 to 1944. She has been teaching Home Economics in Covington since 1944.

The Columns extends sincere sympathy in the loss of her husband on November 2, 1951. She was married to Mr. Wilfred Joseph Foley on September 2, 1939.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Witter (Margie McLean, ex-'40), 422 W. 17th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, have announced the birth of a son, William McLean, on July 9.

THE ROYAL CLIPPERS OF SULPHUR



Football Season Ends

Demons Hold SLI To 2 Touchdown Margin

The football season for 1951 ended on November 17, when the Demons invaded the lair of the powerful Southwestern Bulldogs in Lafayette and came out with a score of 41-26 against them.

Rated as underdogs by at least five touchdowns, the Demons surprised the Bulldogs by scoring three touchdowns in the first half while holding the Bulldogs to a single touchdown. In the third quarter the Demons scored again, giving them a 26-7 lead.

The advantage was short-lived however, as the Bulldogs came roaring back and displayed the power and drive with which they had been credited. They completely overwhelmed the Demons from that point, and the final score read SLI, 41—NSC, 26.

The freshman-dominated team of Northwestern showed flashes of offensive strength in both the SLI and the Alabama State Teachers games, but folded defensively in the last half of each game. They rolled to an early lead in each game but were unable to maintain it. Alabama defeated the Demons 34-27.

The Demons closed the season with a record of 1 victory and 8 losses. They scored a total of 139 points, while their opponents scored a total of 308 points.

Morrell and Tatum Named On All-Conference First Team, Emmons Given Spot On Second Team

Sid Morrell, senior from Shreveport, was selected as left guard on the Gulf States Conference All-Conference offensive football team, and Robert L. Tatum, freshman from Raceland, was selected as left guard on the All-Conference defensive football team.

Johnny Emmons, senior from Mansfield, was selected as safety on the All-Conference second defensive team.

Other Demons receiving honorable mention on the All-Conference selection were George Pharis, senior from Pineville, as end; Wade Bass, freshman from Shreveport, as tackle; M. D. Rav, sophomore from Seminole, Okla. (formerly of Haynesville) as quarterback; Bobby Davis, senior from Shreveport, and Joe Price Lancaster, senior from Ferriday, as backs.

Basketball Gets Underway

Starting the season with one senior and one junior on his squad, Coach Charles F. "Red" Thomas will be forced to rely almost entirely on his sophomores and freshmen players for whatever degree of success his basketball team may attain this season.

He is looking forward to his second season as head coach of basketball with misgivings but with a sprinkling of optimism as well.

With the loss of All-American Johnny McConathy, All-Conference Linwood Ouzts, and Hershall McConathy from last year's starting five, the picture takes on a sombre hue. Add to that the fact that number one substitute, Bob Pender, has gone to the Army, and the misgivings of the coach are easily understood.

However, with some outstanding freshmen prospects to go along with Jim Yergler and Artie Ranew, a fairly well-rounded starting five will probably take the floor for the Demons this year. The roster will include last year's freshmen standout performers—Tynes Hildebrand, George Davis, and Ken Corley—all from Florien. When we add such freshmen prospects as LaVerne Free of Pleasant Hill, Jim Thomas from Martin, and Murrell Walker from Dry Prong, prospects look a little brighter. Also becoming eligible at the end of the fall semester will be Kenneth Shaw of Holton, Indiana, a six-foot plus man, who is expected to add considerable strength to the team.

Five of the squad measure six feet, three inches and better. Add to this the speed and maneuverability usually developed in Demon teams, and one finds room

EILEEN O'REILLY



Little Miss Eileen O'Reilly is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Austin T. O'Reilly of 2200 North Point Street, San Francisco 23, California. Eileen's mother is the former Sarah Ragland, A.B. '35, of Monroe.

Mrs. O'Reilly can't get away from her commercial work and is working in the office of Hotpoint, Inc., in San Francisco, while Mr. O'Reilly is training the young people of the city to swim.

for optimism even in a team that is dominated by freshmen and sophomores.

Demons Win First Three

Early season play has included only three games as we go to press. The results of these games were as follows: NSC, 81—Alexandria Air Base, 19; NSC, 76—Sam Houston State Teachers, 62; and NSC, 62—Alexandria Air Base, 37. In each of these games Coach Thomas has cleared the bench to give every man an opportunity to show his possibilities.

As the season progresses, competition will assume more rugged proportions, and the Demons must

Cupid's Doings

MISS JOAN MARIE PUISSEUR, ex '51, Shreveport, and Jack William Lavigne, Jr., of Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, were married at St. John Berchmans Catholic Church on September 10. They will be at home in Rantoul, Illinois.

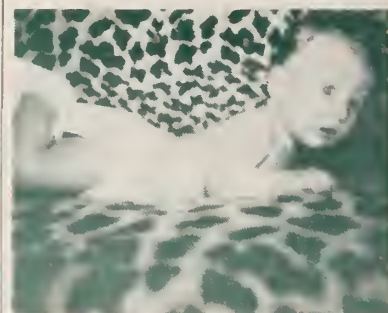
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MISS JACONETTE DAVIS, A.B. '50, of Shreveport, and Lt. Walton S. Williams, of Memphis, Tenn., were married on September 29 at the Chapel at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky. They will make their home in Evansville, Indiana. The bride was a flight stewardess for Delta Airlines prior to the marriage.

* * *

MISS ODESSA MAE McNAUGHTON, B.S. '49, of Mansfield, and Nicholas John Schaefer, of Shreveport, were married on October 12, at St. John's Catholic Church, Shreveport. The young couple will reside at 3708 McWillie, Shreveport.

CHRISTY LYNN MARX



Pictured above is the four-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elzer I. Marx of 812 West Church Street, Champaign, Illinois. Mr. Marx is a 1951 graduate in health and physical education, and Mrs. Marx is a former student.

Marx is presently doing graduate study at University of Illinois, where he is teaching part-time on a fellowship awarded him the past summer. Word has just been received that he has signed a contract to do play-by-play broadcasts of all the University's home and trip games over station WILL at Urbana. In addition to the basketball broadcasts, Marx has his own sports broadcast six days per week.

While doing graduate study for a Master's Degree, Marx is teaching three sports classes as a part of his fellowship assignment.

develop more poise and better offensive and defensive tactics to meet with a fair degree of success in a conference that is loaded with strong and experienced teams.

LIZZIE CARTER McVOY

Mrs. Lizzie Carter McVoy, 83, who trained many of Louisiana's educators in fifty years of teaching, died in Baton Rouge on November 17. She was buried in the old American Cemetery in Natchitoches on November 19.

Mrs. McVoy taught for 30 years at the old Normal before moving to Louisiana State University. She taught at the University for 20 years, retiring from active service as Professor of English Literature at LSU in 1937.

Upon the occasion of her retirement, a library in Evangeline Hall was named in her honor.

Mrs. McVoy had a rich educational background. After graduating from a girls high school in New Orleans, she did work at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, University of Chicago, and Columbia University.

Her passing has caused a feeling of sadness and deep personal loss to all who were fortunate enough to have known her wonderful personality, her keen wit and satire, and her outstanding ability as a teacher who could bring out the best efforts of those whom she taught.



NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY



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